Open Protocols: transparency about your research outline

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Why should I publish my protocol?

• early scientific record

• facilitate subsequent publication of your study results in other journals

• transparency of research
  - reduces publication bias,
  - prevents selective publication and selective reporting of research outcomes,
  - prevents unnecessary duplication of research,
  - planned trials
  - helps ethics review boards
Why should I publish my protocol?

• international registered report identifier

• get credit for the methods development.

• identify problems in your methods early on

• solicit early feedback
Why should I publish my protocol?

• APC discount

• Should all protocols be published?
  • Uniqueness, complexity, funding agency requirements, societal importance, ...
Points of attention

• registration of the study required
  -> This in turn may pose other problems!
  • Correct database
  • Possible problems with anonymity of recruitment sites
  • Predatory research groups

• Sometimes no peer review is needed!
  • Ethics approval
  • Grant awarded from major funding body (and thus already peer reviewed)
• In conclusion

Advantages:
- Early scientific record
- Transparency
- Credit for new methodology
- Early feedback
- APC discount

Disadvantages:
- Study registration may be required (the database may require regular updating)
- Predatory research groups could use your idea (after slightly changing it)